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TARIFF POLICY FOR ENGLAND.

BALFOUR INDORSSES CHAMBERLAIN'S PLAN.

He says it has been generally discussed by Cabinet—Mr. Chamberlain further explains his intentions in regard to departure in Great Britain's Policy.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, May 28.—In the House of Commons this afternoon Sir Charles Dilke, advanced radical member for the Forest of Dean division of Gloucestershire, called attention to Mr. Chamberlain's recent speeches in regard to a preferential tariff between the colonies and the empire. Sir Charles said he would like to know if Mr. Chamberlain, in advocating something in the nature of a protective tariff, spoke with the authority of the financial department, or of the whole Cabinet.

Sir Charles went on to say that in regard to preferential duties with Canada the benefits that might accrue were still problematical. He had examined the speeches of the Colonial Secretary and the policy that they foreshadowed. That policy, he declared, had not been thought out, and if presented to the country would be universally condemned, as it had been in the times of their grandfathers and fathers.

Premier Balfour said in reply that he was not much in sympathy with the honorable Baronet. He deprecated waving the somewhat ragged and moth-eaten flag, either on the side of protection or of free trade, in a controversy which was now removed as far as the poles were asunder from that in which our fathers engaged forty or fifty years ago.

Part of the speech of the honorable Baronet, the Prime Minister said, had been devoted not to the fiscal policy of the country, but to the less elevating object of making mischief. The Colonial Secretary himself would fail to cheer that amiable effort of the honorable gentleman.

The Premier, continuing, asserted that the position of the British islands is entirely different from what it was in 1846 or 1847. It is different from what free traders supposed it would be. They predicted that free trade would become universal, but they were wrong. This is the only free trade country in the world, and if the present condition of things continues, the Premier said, the time must come when the only neutral markets will be the Turkish Empire, our own protectorate crown colonies, and India.

This country would then be in a position where it would be obliged to import an enormous proportion of foodstuffs and raw material, and would have to pay for them by exports which they would find it extremely difficult to dispose of in any but the countries he had described.

The conditions which now prevailed, the Prime Minister said, were never anticipated, and he would like to know whether they were to be excluded from consideration by the leaders of thought in this country.

With respect to tariff negotiations he would say that if foreign countries were to be allowed to treat our colonies as foreign nations we must be forced by patriotic motives and regard for our colonies to retaliate. Canada, New Zealand, Australia and India were parts of the Empire, and it would be absurd for them to be treated as separate aggregations because self-government had been given them.

If preference was to be given to imports for the benefit of the colonies, they, in exchange, would mitigate the severity of their hostile tariffs against us. That could only be done by taxing the food of the people

and raw material. The Premier said that he did not think it would be wise to tax raw material. He did not know whether a tax on food would be accepted, but unless something of the kind was accepted the scheme could not be carried out.

He did not feel sure that certain wealthy classes in this country would repudiate the suggestion. He did not know whether the working classes of the country, or whether the colonies would accept the proposed tariff modifications, although he knew the traditional objections of the former to the taxation of food and of the latter to abandoning protection. If these objections could not be overcome this plan would have to go.

Mr. Balfour, in concluding said that it was not true that the plan had been originated by Mr. Chamberlain as a policy of his own without consultation with his colleagues. He (Mr. Balfour) was in agreement with the Colonial Secretary, and if Mr. Chamberlain's scheme or some other scheme was not practicable the empire could not be brought to that stage of fruition that had occurred in the United States of America.

Mr. Chamberlain said he had been surprised at the exceptional attention that had been bestowed on his Birmingham speech. In substance—matter and suggestion it did not differ from speeches that had been made at other times by Lord Salisbury, Mr. Balfour and himself. Although he had not suggested an entire reversal of the British fiscal system, yet undoubtedly a new mandate would have to be given to the Government if the suggestions he had thrown out were to be carried into practical effect, and this new mandate would involve considerations of the utmost importance.

Mr. Chamberlain, continuing, asserted that unless there was closer fiscal relationship there could not be closer political union, and that the bonds of union and of a united empire would be beyond the bounds of attainment. He felt sure that the people of the country would answer the question that would be put to them in one way or another in no uncertain way. He would hold himself to be right until proved to be wrong.

When the Government got a mandate from the people, then it would be time to from the people, then it would be time to produce a definite scheme. If there was to be a preference, it had been said that it must either be open raw material or foodstuffs, or both. He did not bind himself for all time to it, but he did not think there could be a tax on raw material.

The tax on food was what he had to defend, and if he could show the kingdommen that in return for this tax they would get more than they paid he might vindicate the suggested course.

The working classes would pay one quarter of a food tax, and he would be prepared to devote not the three-quarters, but the whole to social and domestic reform—to old age pensions, or to some corresponding object of a national character. Mr. Chamberlain said that he would not deny that a tax on corn was incidentally of a protective nature. That would not be the intention, but the consequence of the tax. It would benefit agriculture and increase the British food supply.

The next point said Mr. Chamberlain, was how the British Empire was going to meet foreign countries, Germany, for example. On that point he would say that it was necessary for the Government to have power to retaliate.

Mr. Henry Labouchere asked if the views expressed by Mr. Chamberlain in the House were those of the Cabinet. No answer was given to the question.

Mr. Chamberlain, in concluding, dealt with the possibility of Great Britain having

to defend her trade against the "unjust competition" of trusts and combinations.

"Has the House," he asked, "considered what is the practical working of the great trusts now being formed in America, in Germany and elsewhere in Europe—the enormous aggregations of capital wielded by one man, which can be brought to bear in a way to destroy any particular industry in Great Britain without running any risk whatever on its own account?"

"No," he added, "are the one open market in the world, the one dumping ground of the world. In America manufacturers are building up their works, and when there is a boom, as recently, their works are increased to meet the boom. If there were a depression in the iron trade to-morrow it is perfectly certain that great quantities of iron would be put down in this country or in countries we supply at a price we could not possibly contend with."

"The consequence would be that inasmuch as no manufacturer here could possibly stand a loss of that description for many years together, his business would be ruined and the whole of his capital lost. Of one thing I am certain. If there should be a depression in some of our greatest industries, and the result I predict should follow, nothing on earth would prevent the people of this country from imposing a duty which would defend them against such unfair competition."

"I have indicated the lines on which my mind is moving, and have indicated the discussion which I wish to raise and which I promise I will raise before the constituents."

Mr. Chamberlain's speech evoked loud cheers from the supporters of the Ministry.

Prime Minister Balfour's endorsement of Mr. Chamberlain's tariff ideas has at once removed the impression that the Colonial Secretary was playing a lone hand, and has lifted the question of a preferential tariff arrangement between Great Britain and her colonies to the very front of all current political controversies.

Although the Government speakers carefully avoided any indication that an appeal would be made to the country in the near future their statements are very generally interpreted as foreshadowing a general election at a not distant date.

The very fact that no definite policy was laid down, the Ministers only asking the electorate to examine, discuss and determine the principle, is held to be likely to accelerate the dissolution of Parliament.

AMERICANS AT COURT.

Miss Post, Miss Bigelow, Miss Sohler and Others Presented.

LONDON, May 28.—Among the Americans presented at the fourth court in Buckingham Palace to-night was Lady Newborough, who before her marriage was Miss Grace Carr of Kentucky.

Mr. Henry White, the American Chargé d'Affaires, who was accompanied by his wife and daughter, made several presentations on behalf of Ambassador Chen-Lu, formerly Mrs. Post, of New York, presented her daughter, Miss Post.

Among the Americans invited to attend the court were Miss Bigelow, Miss Sohler and Miss Alice Sohler.

WU TING-FANG APPOINTED.

Gets Subordinate Place on Board of Foreign Affairs.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

PERIN, May 28.—An edict was issued by the Throne to-day appointing Wu Ting-fang, the former Chinese Minister at Washington, to a subordinate place in the Wai Wu Pu (Board of Foreign Affairs).

BLOCKADE BY CASTRO.

He Orders Seven Venezuelan Ports Closed to Check Revolutionists.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

CARACAS, May 28.—President Castro today signed an order suppressing for an unlimited period the custom houses and closing the ports of Barcelona, Guirica, Ciudad Bolivar, Coro, Puerto Sucre, Cuno and Colorado, all of which have been at various times hotbeds of revolution.

Ciudad Bolivar, on the Orinoco, is now, and has been for some time, in the hands of the revolutionists, and at last accounts a Government force was proceeding there to give battle to the rebels.

The order, which goes into effect on June 1, allows vessels destined for the above-named ports three days of grace in delivering goods consigned there; with goods coming from the United States by steamship, fifteen days; by sailing vessel, thirty days; from the English, French and Dutch West Indies and Demerara, ten days; from Grenada and Trinidad, two days, and from Europe thirty days for steamships and sixty for sailing vessels.

40 AUTOMOBILES WRECKED.

Barrow, One of the Victims, Worse-Seriously Run Down a Woman.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, May 28.—The condition of Lorraine Barrow, one of the automobilists who was injured in the Paris-Madrid race, is worse.

M. Debrion, one of the competitors who reached Bordeaux, has returned from that city. He travelled along the course, followed by the racers and describes the ruin-strewn road as a remarkable sight.

He calculates that he saw at least forty wrecked machines, most of them large cars that must have cost on an average of 40,000 francs each.

Barrow's car was imbedded several inches in a tree, which must be felled to release the machine.

While M. Serpollet, the noted automobile maker, was driving from Bordeaux to Paris to-day he ran over a woman, seriously injuring her.

TO STOP AUTO RACE IN IRELAND.

King Appealed To "In Name of Humanity, Progress and Reason."

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, May 28.—An association calling itself the Society for the Protection of Human Life on Public Highways has telegraphed to King Edward, appealing to him in the name of humanity, progress and reason to prohibit the international automobile race that is to be held in Ireland on July 2.

COWELL-STEPNEY SEPARATION.

Lady Margaret Gets a Decree in London Divorce Court.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, May 28.—Lady Margaret Cowell-Stepney, who was the wife of Sir Arthur Cowell-Stepney, obtained a judicial separation from her husband in the divorce court to-day. They have lived apart since 1876, owing to the husband's delusions in regard to his wife.

The husband obtained a divorce in 1902 in Idaho, where he was known as Mr. Stepney. The Judge disregarded this divorce writ and granted the application for a separation.

MINNIE JEFFREYS DIVORCED.

Decree for Actress From Third Son of Earl Howe.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, May 28.—Minnie Ellis Gertrude Jeffreys, the actress, got a divorce to-day from her husband, the Hon. Frederick Graham Curzon, third son of Earl Howe. They were married in 1894.

THE MONETARY COMMISSION.

Members Have a Talk With British Government Representatives.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, May 28.—The American International Exchange Commissioners had their first conference this afternoon at the Foreign Office with the representatives of the British Government.

Henry White, the American Chargé d'Affaires, presented the Commissioners at the Foreign Office to Viscount Cranborne, Under Secretary of State for the Foreign Office, and Sir Thomas Sanderson, Permanent Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in the absence of the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

In addition to the Commissioners there were present Prime Minister Balfour, Lord George Hamilton, Secretary of State for India, Chancellor of the Exchequer Ritchie, Senator Arthur Pue Gorman of Maryland, Sir Clinton Dawkins, Mr. Carter of the American Embassies and others.

Subsequently Mr. White gave a luncheon to the Commissioners at his house, 6 Whitehall Gardens.

PELLETAN DENIES BRIBERY.

"Figaro" Had Accused Him of Accepting Money From Humberts.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, May 28.—The Figaro, on the strength of a letter from Parayre, the former steward of the Humbert family, the swindlers, to-day accused M. Pelletan, Minister of Marine, of accepting money from the Humberts.

The Figaro says Parayre wrote to Minister Pelletan last September asking for assistance and reminding him that he had handed a large sum of money to his (Pelletan's) secretary at the house of the Humberts, in return for a speech which had been delivered by the present Minister in the Chamber of Deputies on Dec. 23, 1898.

In support of a motion to invalidate the election of a deputy who had defeated Frederic Humbert. The election, however, was confirmed.

In the Chamber of Deputies this afternoon M. Pelletan emphatically denied the Figaro's suggestion that he had accepted a bribe from the Humberts. The Minister was cheered enthusiastically by members for all sides of the House.

Just before M. Pelletan rose Deputy Flandrin uttered an offensive remark which was audible enough to reach Prime Minister Combes. The latter became greatly excited and rushed up to M. Flandrin, threatening to strike him. They were separated by members.

The greatest agitation prevailed throughout the House, the Opposition protesting against infringement of the liberties of the Chamber. M. Combes being a Senator, not a Deputy.

The incident arose from M. Flandrin's insinuation that M. Combes's son Edgar had received 25,000 francs from the National Club to obtain the authority of the Prefect of Police for the playing of bacarat at the club.

REBELLION IN RUSSIA.

Troops Sent to Veronesh, Where Workmen Have Banded Together.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

BERLIN, May 28.—A dispatch to the Tagblatt from St. Petersburg says that the labor troubles have developed into open rebellion in the district of Veronesh, where 10,000 workmen have banded together. Many revolutionary pamphlets are being circulated. A large military force has been sent to disperse the workmen.

NEW ARMY MANOEUVRES.

Great Secrecy Maintained in Germany Over Evolutions.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

BERLIN, May 28.—Emperor William suddenly ordered all the commanding Generals in Germany to attend the manoeuvres at Dohertitz to-day to witness entirely new evolutions, concerning which the utmost secrecy is maintained. His Majesty also ordered that no civilian be allowed within a wide radius of the manoeuvring ground.

About fifty thousand soldiers of all arms assembled to demonstrate the practicability of the new methods, for which the engineers had been preparing the ground for many days. The manoeuvres will continue for two days.

It was on the same ground that Frederick the Great carried out the perfect drilling of the army which won the Seven Years' War.

REPORTER MUST QUIT RUSSIA.

London "Times" Man Who Criticized Government for Massacre of Jews.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, May 28.—The Times has received a telegram from its St. Petersburg correspondent announcing that the Government ordered him to quit Russian territory immediately. The British Ambassador, however, secured for him three days' grace in which to make domestic arrangements.

The Times, commenting on the despatch, says it is unable to give any reason for the order, but that it may be assumed that it is due to the outspoken criticism of the correspondent on the Government's connection with the Kishineff massacre.

BATH IRON WORKS TO MOVE.

Report That the Shipbuilding Plant Will Be Changed to New London.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

NEW LONDON, Conn., May 28.—News was received here to-day that the Bath Iron Works is to come to this city.

The Bath Iron Works is one of the largest shipyards in the combine of the United States Shipbuilding Company. Charles R. Hanson, president of the Eastern Shipbuilding Company, said to-night the removal of the Bath works was news to him.

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OFFICE BUILDING FOR UPTOWN.

Browning, King & Co. Are to Erect an 8-story Structure for Their New Store.

Plans have been completed for the big building to be erected by Browning, King & Co. on the property adjoining the Union Time Savings Bank and directly opposite the Imperial Hotel. It is to extend through to Sixth avenue, will be eight stories high, built of brick, with limestone and granite trimmings, and of fireproof construction throughout.

The ground floor and the second and third floors will be occupied by the owners as a retail clothing store. These will be fitted with all modern accommodations for the convenience of customers. The other five floors will be divided into offices arranged about a large, triangular shaft with a skylight. The hallway leading to the offices will run through from Broadway to Sixth avenue, in the northern part of the building. There will be twenty-one offices on each of the five upper floors.

The store on the ground floor will be one of the lightest and most attractive in the city. There will be 110 feet of show windows. The ground floor will cover about 20,000 square feet. The building, it is expected, will be ready for occupancy early in October.

Loubet to Visit London in July.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, May 28.—It is stated officially that President Loubet will visit London between July 18 and 20, and that he will remain there for three or four days.